



For more information: Bob Burdick
360-704-4169, or bobb@hecb.wa.gov

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e-Learning experts to meet with HECB, Advisory Council

OLYMPIA— A panel of local and national experts on e-Learning will discuss how best to use new online education tools and strategies to achieve the goals of the Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education at a meeting of the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) May 21 at the WSU Spokane Riverpoint Campus.

Expanded online courses and services will play an important role in enabling more students to earn postsecondary credentials in the next decade. E-Learning will be especially valuable in expanding opportunity for non-traditional students and adult learners, whose work and family obligations often prevent them from attending regularly scheduled classes on a campus.

Advances in technology and greater levels of faculty expertise are helping institutions offer more varied courses and other online services. The panelists will provide examples of these applications and explore the potential of e-Learning to advance key strategic planning goals: achieving greater levels of diversity, access, affordability, economic growth, and educational attainment.

Panel members are:

- Janet Poley, President, American Distance Education Consortium
- Ray Schroeder, Director, Office of Technology-Enhance Learning, University of Illinois - Springfield
- Muriel Oaks, Dean, Center of Distance & Professional Education, WSU
- Cable Green, e-Learning Director, SBCTC

The panel discussion will be held during a joint meeting of the HECB with its Advisory Council from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 21 at Washington State University's Riverpoint Campus in Spokane. The next day, Thursday, May 22, the Board will hold its regular meeting from 9 a.m. to noon at WSU Riverpoint. All Board meetings are open to the public.

Items scheduled for the regular Board meeting include new degree proposals, including a Bachelor of Science in Global Wine Studies at Central Washington University; a report on the 2009-11 budget process, and on the 2008 supplemental and operating budgets; and an update of a 2006 report on how effectively higher education is meeting workforce needs.

Briefing materials for the meeting are available at:
<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/boardmtgs/index.asp>

Who: Higher Education Coordinating Board

What: Regularly scheduled meeting with Advisory Council

Where: WSU Spokane Riverpoint Campus
Spokane Academic Center
600 N. Riverpoint Blvd. 99210

When: Thursday, February 22, 2007
9 a.m. - noon

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Board Meeting Agenda

May 21, 2 – 5 pm Board Work Session

Welcome and Introductions

- Bill Grinstein, HECB chair
- Brian Pitcher, Chancellor, WSU Spokane

e-Learning and Strategic Master Plan Goals

A panel of local and national experts will discuss best practices for utilizing e-learning to meet key master plan goals, including diversity, access, affordability, economic growth, and educational attainment.

Adjourn

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May 22, 9 am – 12:00 noon Regular Board Meeting

Continental breakfast – HECB members
Spokane Academic Center 245

Welcome and Introductions

Bill Grinstein, HECB Chair

Consent Items

Approval of the March 18-19, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Approval of New Degree Programs:

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre, CWU – *Resolution 08-11*

This program would represent a significant re-structuring within CWU's Theatre Arts Department, which currently offers a BA in Theatre degree with six specializations. The proposed program would replace four of those specializations with a BFA degree featuring specializations in performance, design and technology, and musical theatre.

Bachelor of Science in Global Wine Studies, CWU – *Resolution 08-12*

This program would respond to the need for trained workers in a rapidly growing and complex wine industry. It would be an innovative, interdisciplinary program offering a broad understanding of the global wine trade and ways to keep Washington's wine industry economically competitive.

Master of Science in Nutrition, CWU – *Resolution 08-13*

This program would replace an existing Nutrition specialization within CWU's Master of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences degree. It would be moved from the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences to the Department of Health, Human Performance, and Nutrition as part of an administrative restructuring.

Master of Science in Dental Hygiene, EWU – *Resolution 08-14*

This Web-based program would prepare students for careers as educators, administrators, researchers, or consumer advocates. At full enrollment, it would be the largest master's degree program in dental hygiene in the nation.

Executive Policy Committee

Bill Grinstein, HECB chair

Report of the Executive Director

Fiscal Committee

Charley Bingham, chair

Information & Discussion:

Getting Ready for the 2009-11 Budget

Review of HECB budget development process.

2008 Supplemental Operating and Capital Budgets

Higher education as a proportion of state funding.

Comparable Framework 2008 Update

Presentation of report by Eric Meng, President, Meng Analysis, Seattle.

Financial Aid Committee

Jesus Hernandez, chair

Education Committee

Betti Sheldon, member

Information & Discussion:

Update on "A Skilled and Educated Workforce"

Staff will update the Board on changes in "A Skilled and Educated Workforce" – a report developed jointly with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

Review of Rules for Implementing the Degree-Granting Institutions Act

The HECB is required to review regulations related to the Degree Granting Institutions Act periodically. Based upon the most recent review, a number of changes to the Washington Administrative Code are recommended. Staff are preparing to begin the rulemaking process to clarify the regulations, address inconsistencies, and incorporate new legislative requirements.

Public Comment

A sign-in sheet is provided for public comment on any of the items above.

Adjournment